

City's Senior Motorist Advises Great-Grandson on Driving



JOHN and JIMMY TOLSON of TORRANCE inspect old but unblemished licenses

This city's senior motorist is John S. Tolson of 1421 Madrid avenue.

Interested in the stories published in the last two issues of The Herald concerning the quest for the possessor of the oldest driver's license in the city, the 75-year-old head of the Tolson clan produced a sheaf of cards which appear to qualify him for that honor.

The oldest was dated 1918 and he has motor operator's licenses issued in 1919, 1922 and 1926.

Here's a Real Record! But Tolson, father of Mayor William H. Tolson and a resident of Torrance for nearly 27 years, has another claim to fame:

In 22 years of driving all kinds of autos and trucks he has never had an accident of any kind!

"I guess I've driven more than 500,000 miles," he said this week while his great-grandson Jimmy inspected his license cards. "But I always managed to give the other fellow the benefit of the doubt at intersections."

Paid One Fine "I'd rather slow up for six minutes than spend six hours, days or weeks in a hospital—that's the reason why I never had an accident."

"Did you ever get a ticket?" he was questioned.

"Yep, I did. It was in 1916 when I was one of about 300 motorists who clean forgot that we had to have our driver's licenses renewed. The judge said \$5 or five days but I never did like the sight of a jail so I paid the fine," he replied.

Patriarch of Family "You grow up to be a careful driver like your great-granddad and you won't have any trouble," he admonished four-year-old Jimmy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Tolson. Mr. and Mrs. Tolson have lived in their Madrid avenue home since 1925. They have four sons, 11 grandchildren and Jimmy.

Tolson started out in life as a carpenter but when he came to California from his native Texas in 1909 he entered the transfer and trucking business. He oper-

ated that business here beginning in August 1913 and then sold out to his son Mose in 1920. He continued to work for the firm until 1932 and then became a city worker on the street department.

Careful driving appears to be an attribute of the Tolson family. His son, Mayor William H. Tolson, who has driven an estimated "million miles" in the past 30 years, has also escaped having an accident. The mayor also asserts he has received but one traffic ticket and that for "speeding" in Seal Beach at 1:30 in the morning 17 years ago.

Cafe "Raid" Principals Bid to Council Meet

After quoting a somewhat melodramatic account of a visit paid King's cafe, 1646 Cabrillo avenue, several weeks ago by Police Chief John Stroh and two deputy sheriffs—a visit referred to as a "raid" in a political sheet, City Councilman James Hitchcock indicated to fellow board members Tuesday night that the incident was greatly exaggerated.

"The police chief and deputy sheriffs walked in the cafe very quietly, looked around and walked out again when they couldn't find anything wrong," Hitchcock said in answer to a query from City Councilman George V. Powell as to "What about that raid on King's cafe?"

At Councilman Tom McGuire's suggestion, Clifford King and Inez Hunt will be invited to attend a council session when Stroh is present to give the board both sides of the matter. Stroh asserts that he received a "tip-off" that the cafe was being used as a bookie headquarters while he was on a recent trip to Colorado but this practice was discontinued shortly before he visited the place.

The material gathered will be used by the council in proposing a community recreation program and in selecting a site for a proposed youth recreation center, Judge Lessing said.

Rev. Marshall also plans to incorporate the data obtained in a thesis for a master of art's degree at U.S.C.

Week's Building Totals \$5,150

As the month drew to a close, building permits to the amount of \$5,150 were issued during the past week for new construction projects. They included:

Herbert R. Thompson, 1542 213th street, five-room frame and stucco house and double garage at 1726 Watson avenue, \$3,500; E. R. Price, double frame garage at 2246 230th street, \$250; C. H. Stowell, enlarging living room at 2316 239th street, \$200; J. M. Becker, remodel store front at 1407 Sartori avenue, \$1,000, and Carl C. Benner, Inglewood, double frame garage at 1424 Post avenue, \$200.

Census Starts Next Tuesday

The first part of the 1940 census, namely the census of business and manufactures, is rapidly nearing completion.

The larger part of the 1940 census is that of population and agriculture. Actual enumeration starts on Tuesday, April 2, and continues for two weeks in cities and towns of 2,500 or over, and for 30 days for all other areas.

It was regarded by some financial observers as another indication of the corporation's efforts to improve its employee and public relations, a phase of big business stressed by Edward R. Stettinius Jr., the youthful chairman who took over the financial reins two years ago.

Before tackling the job of

Bike Thefts Solved by S. P. Arrest

Disappearance of bicycles from Narbonne high school seems to be solved by the arrest in San Pedro of Donald Barnhart, 21, of Hawthorne.

Barnhart was taken in custody when he was riding a bicycle belonging to a youth attending Mary Star of the Sea School.

Barnhart is reported to have admitted stealing a number of bicycles from other schools including four from Narbonne.

On the San Pedro charge he was given a sentence of 180 days in jail, which was suspended. Later he was picked up by the sheriff's office. Several bicycles have been recovered and are in the custody of the sheriff.

Benefit Game for Markham Next Sunday

Next Sunday afternoon the Torrance-Lomita Indians and the Dr. Ross baseball teams will be trying just a little bit harder to please fans attending the game at the Torrance city park diamond.

The boys will be putting on a show to help one of their team mates who suffered a leg fracture in a game several weeks ago.

That will be their contribution to "Benny Markham Day" at the ball park. Fans of the harbor district are expected to throng the stands after "shelling out" for admissions which will be awarded to Benny.

Markham, who has been a Torrance-Lomita favorite for years, has a big hospital bill to pay and the benefit should help meet this obligation. Arrangements for the special attraction were made by Managers Walt Morris of the local club and Jack Davidson of the Dr. Ross nine, who volunteered his team's services when he learned of the plan.

It should be a grand ball game for a grand player.

Coordinators to Make Recreation Survey in City

Data concerning the recreation needs of local young people and what the community is doing to meet them is being sought by the Torrance Coordinating Council in a survey launched this week.

Chairman Robert Lessing has named Rev. Thomas R. Marshall, vicar of St. Andrew's Episcopal church, to direct the survey and he will distribute some 850 questionnaires to high school students and other young people to determine how they occupy their leisure hours.

The material gathered will be used by the council in proposing a community recreation program and in selecting a site for a proposed youth recreation center, Judge Lessing said.

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Youngest Council Candidate Backs Youth Movement



FRANK SCHMIDT

Completing its program of presenting the various candidates for municipal offices with their platforms and views, The Herald submits the following data relative to Frank Schmidt—The Editor.

While still only 29 years old, Frank Schmidt, candidate for one of the seats in the Torrance City Council, has risen to the position of turn-foreman of the warehouse at the Columbia Steel plant here, where he has been employed for the past ten years. He owns his own attractive home at 1918 Cabrillo avenue, where he and Mrs. Schmidt live with their two sons, Frank George, 6, and James Donald, who is just one year old. Candidate Schmidt was born in Denver, Colorado.

As a young man, Schmidt naturally favors a "youth movement" in Torrance and believes that the younger people of this city should have a representative on the council. Better recreation facilities providing equipment for all types of sports, particularly tennis courts for night playing, are advocated by Schmidt. He emphasized the importance of providing municipal playgrounds for Walteria, North Torrance and other areas not easily accessible to the Municipal Park on Arlington avenue.

Organization of a fathers' division of the Parent-Teachers (Continued on Page 5-A)

Roads Group Meets in P. V. Tonight

The Southwest District Highways association will be the guests of the new city of Palos Verdes tonight at a dinner meeting in the Palos Verdes Golf clubhouse, starting at 6:30 p. m., according to City Engineer Leonard Young, secretary of the group.

A general open discussion of highway problems and how they affect the county's newest municipality will be held.

'Big Steel' Reviews 1939 in Terms Understood by Man-in-the-Street

Scrapping its usual staid annual report, designed chiefly for financiers and shareholders, "Big Steel" this week issued a brightly hued "review of the year by the chairman for stockholders and employees," written in the terms of the "man in the street."

Previous annual reports, replete with great arrays of statistics, were generally pretty dry reading and looked like a professional accountant's statement to a board of directors. But the United States Steel Corporation "review" of 1939 has pictures, charts and figures—all presented simply and accompanied by explanations in everyday language.

Because the highly-readable statement concerns the parent corporation of the Columbia Steel Company of this city and all Columbia workers and stockholders will receive copies, it has a local interest of no small importance. The report is going to nearly 250,000 employees as well as some 217,000 stockholders, putting it in the mass circulation brackets.

War Fleeting Benefit It was regarded by some financial observers as another indication of the corporation's efforts to improve its employee and public relations, a phase of big business stressed by Edward R. Stettinius Jr., the youthful chairman who took over the financial reins two years ago.

Before tackling the job of

showing how "Big Steel" earns its billion-dollar living, pays out most of the gross intake in wages, salaries, taxes and other expenses, Stettinius pointed out "war orders represent only a fleeting prosperity and war business is certain to result in a disruptive shifting of our economy."

"The management of the steel

Local School Bus Crashes Into Truck In Gardena; Children Escape Injury

Altho the front end of the school bus transporting about 15 children to Torrance Elementary school was demolished in a collision with an empty truck on Normandie avenue near Redondo Beach boulevard in Gardena yesterday morning, none of the children and neither driver was injured.

Did YOU Forget Anything Last Weekend?

We haven't heard of anyone suffering loss of memory and wandering around in a dazed but happy condition YET... but after receiving reports of found articles in this vicinity last weekend it wouldn't surprise us to learn that the wave of forgetfulness extended to human beings!

Here are a few of the personal belongings reported found in this locality over the Easter weekend:

A gas tank lock, complete with a keyring and keys, on West 182nd in Gardena by M. K. Houdashelt of Craven's Apartment 104.

A woman's felt hat left behind by some Easter shopper at Edwood's dress shop at 1417 Marcella avenue;

A man's coat found on Sepulveda, may be recovered at the C. B. Patton Oil Company lease, 2332 Sepulveda, and

A lady's suit coat found at the Torrance Feed Store, 1963 Carson street, by Owner T. S. Lovelady.

Job Insurance Fund Chiseler Gets Penalty

In a scathing rebuke to all chiselers, Judge Frank Carrell yesterday sentenced E. F. Smith of Redondo Beach to serve 90 days in the county jail and pay a \$25 fine.

Smith was arrested on the charge of having falsely certified to the California department of Employment to weeks of total unemployment for which he was paid unemployment insurance from the state unemployment reserve fund, when in fact he was employed. Judge Carrell suspended the 90-day sentence on Smith's promise to make full restitution of the money to the department.

Judge Carrell declared that the unemployment insurance reserve fund was established by the people of California as a protection to its workers against the hazards of unemployment and issued a warning to chiselers who would obtain this insurance by falsely representing themselves as unemployed.

Members of the city council and interested men are invited to the dinner and meeting. Reservations should be made with Wallace Post at the Torrance National Bank.

Those who spoke were Mayor William H. Tolson, Tom McGuire, Wallace Gilbert, Grant Barkdull, William H. Klusman and William J. Loughridge. Those introduced were Carl D. Steele, J. J. O'Toole and Gordon L. Mann. The speakers were asked the same questions pertaining to the Chamber of Commerce, civil service, low-cost housing and labor attitudes as were propounded to a different group of office-workers two weeks ago.

The next meeting of the Young Democrats, Wednesday, April 3, at 8 o'clock, will feature a speaker from the Workers' Alliance and one from the S. R. A., who will discuss the relief bill recently passed by the state legislature. The organization has invited Frank Schmidt, Frank Shields and Joe Hagberg, three more municipal candidates, to appear and address the open session at that time, thus completing a series of open-forum meetings devoted to local issues.

U. S. Steel Pays 'Surprise' Dividend on Stock

Surprising Wall Street, directors of the U. S. Steel Corp., Tuesday declared a \$1 dividend payable April 26 on common stock of record on April 3. The dividend is the first payment since 1937 and the first since 1917 that the steel board voted at a monthly meeting.

The surprise dividend declaration is regarded as reflection of the hopeful attitude of the management. The action also is believed to indicate earnings so far this year have been more favorable than many outside of the industry had anticipated.

No dividends in common stock were paid in 1938 and 1939. Prior to 1937 when \$1 was paid, nothing was voted on the common for four years.

Showing how "Big Steel" earns its billion-dollar living, pays out most of the gross intake in wages, salaries, taxes and other expenses, Stettinius pointed out "war orders represent only a fleeting prosperity and war business is certain to result in a disruptive shifting of our economy."

"The management of the steel

corporation is convinced," he said, "that the first requisite for the attainment of a lasting prosperity is peace and the prospect of enduring peace."

How 'Living' Is Earned Elaborating on the preliminary report made early in the year, showing profit and other highlights of 1939 operations, the corporation presented its "living" in this style: (in millions of dollars)

United States Steel sold to the public goods and services—\$57. This revenue was disposed of as follows:

Goods and services purchased from others—310. Wear and usage of facilities—61. Taxes—67. Interest paid—9. Leaving for wages for the services of men and facilities—410. This was disposed as follows:

Wages and salaries for men—369. Wages for the use of facilities—41. This wage was disposed of as follows:

To the holders of preferred stock—25. Set aside for future needs—16. "The living" accounts were carried to United States Steel's first full year of operation in 1902.

Outstanding Facts In the account for 1939 these (Continued on Page 5-A)

Rotarians Elect George Peckham New President



GEORGE PECKHAM

George Peckham, pioneer automobile dealer, was named president of the Torrance Rotary club this week, following election of five directors last Thursday. President-elect Peckham will take office July 1, succeeding Harold E. Appenzeller.

Robert T. McCallum, vice-president; William H. Bratton, secretary; and Sherwood McIntyre, treasurer, were all re-elected. Other directors for the 1940-41 term include Retiring-president Appenzeller, David L. Roberts, J. Hugh Shertley, Jr., and Bernhard Bank.

Coming to Torrance in 1921, Peckham, with his brother-in-law, Charles Schultz, established the first and only Ford agency that has ever been in existence in Torrance. As the Ford Motor Company broadened its field, Schultz & Peckham have taken on the new products, which now include the Ford, Mercury and Lincoln Zephyr automobiles, as well as other well-known Ford products.

George Peckham has always been active in Ford dealer organizations and his long experience and leadership in the retail automotive field was recognized by other dealers in this area when they elected him president of the Southbay Automobile Dealers' association to

(Continued on Page 3-A)

10 Seeking City Council Seats at Democratic Meet

With an audience of about 40 present to hear the talks, seven candidates for city council spoke and three more were introduced but did not make any comments at the Torrance Young Democrats' open meeting Monday night.

Those who spoke were Mayor William H. Tolson, Tom McGuire, Wallace Gilbert, Grant Barkdull, William H. Klusman and William J. Loughridge. Those introduced were Carl D. Steele, J. J. O'Toole and Gordon L. Mann. The speakers were asked the same questions pertaining to the Chamber of Commerce, civil service, low-cost housing and labor attitudes as were propounded to a different group of office-workers two weeks ago.

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Precinct Card Notices Mailed

Exactly 4,876 cards, notifying city voters where their polling places are located for the April 9 municipal election, were placed in the mails today by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett. The notices were authorized by the city council recently because the city now has 16 precincts, three more than at the 1939 elections.

Pets, Poultry, Supplies—57

Baby Chix . . . All Breeds!

Yes, regardless of the breed your wants can be satisfied thru the advertisers under class 57. The ad partially reproduced herewith is from one of this area's most successful baby chix concerns; consult him. See his ad under—

Pets, Poultry, Supplies—57

BABY CHICKS Buy Now

Will folks, Baby Chick season is here again. Come in and see our chicks, and above all see our prices before

Read—Use Our Want Ads Regularly for Profit!

City May Ignore Bus Restriction

Declaring that the city of Los Angeles has no right to restrict Torrance municipal buses from picking up and discharging passengers anywhere along their route to Ninth and Hill streets, City Attorney John E. McCall advised the city council Tuesday night not to amend its application for a permit to operate the buses from the Los Angeles Board of Public Utilities and Transportation.

"I don't agree with the Los Angeles board as to its authority," he said. "It has no jurisdiction over the city of Torrance and can only direct us what streets we may use to reach the terminus of the bus line in Los Angeles."

McCall's opinion was given in response to a question by Councilman George V. Powell as to the status of the bus situation. The Los Angeles board last Thursday had indicated it was favorable to the city's and Asbury Rapid Transit Company's joint application for a permit to operate buses over Los Angeles streets but ruled no passengers should be picked up north of Imperial boulevard.

Make Decision April 2 An extension of 15 days was given in which the city and Asbury could file an amended application to include this restriction. Meanwhile the hearing before the State Railroad Commission on the bus situation has been continued until late next month. In addition to the city and Asbury, Landier Transportation Company is seeking a permit to operate buses from Torrance to Huntington Park.

After hearing McCall's report and opinion, the council agreed to hold an advisory meeting next Tuesday, April 2, at 4:30 p. m., when a final decision will be reached on whether or not the city will enter an amended application to conform with the Los Angeles board's ruling.

Other matters considered at Tuesday night's council session were:

Murray Granted Leave A request from the council of the new city of Palos Verdes Estates, signed by Mayor H.E.B. Roessler, asking for a joint meeting to consider mutual city problems. Among those mentioned were the improvement of the two main entrances to Palos Verdes, Hawthorne avenue and the north entrance from Highway 101; center striping of Hawthorne avenue up the hill; fire protection for the new city on a cooperative plan until Palos Verdes can accumulate funds to purchase necessary equipment and transportation.

A data for this combined meeting will be determined next week. City Councilman John V. Murray was granted a 30-day leave of absence while he takes a vacation trip in the interest of his health.

Mayor Tolson and Councilman (Continued on Page 5-A)

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